



CITY OF
TUCSON



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NEWS RELEASE

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FATAL BICYCLE COLLISION SOUTH 4TH AVENUE NEAR EAST 9TH STREET

On September 21, 2015 at approximately 5:30 p.m., officers from Operations Division Downtown responded to the area of South 4th Avenue and East 9th Street for a report of an injured male cyclist in the roadway. Upon arrival, officers had limited information, but learned the cyclist had fallen off of an electric powered bicycle. Tucson Fire responded to the scene and immediately transported the cyclist to Banner University Medical Center with life threatening injuries.

During the investigation it was revealed that the collision was captured on video by a Sunlink rail vehicle. The Sunlink vehicle was traveling southbound on 4th Avenue about a half a block away from the cyclist. The video showed the cyclist was originally eastbound on 8th Street and then turned southbound on to 4th Avenue. He was traveling along the western curb area with no vehicles in the roadway and did not enter into the rail tracks. The cyclist was seen adjusting his backpack, which appeared to cause him to lose his balance. The cyclist then fell to the ground where he struck his head. He was not wearing a helmet.

On September 23, 2015 the cyclist succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased at Banner University Medical Center. He has been identified as 49-year-old Joseph Brzuchalski. Alcohol appears to have been a factor in the collision.

Fatalities Year-To-Date:

For 2014 - 23

Pedestrian - 6

Bicycle - 2

Motorcycle - 1

For 2015 - 42

Pedestrian - 10

Bicycle - 4

Motorcycle - 5

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